



Image

AF / 2823

Attention: Mail Stop AF  
Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
Expedited Procedure Requested  
Examining Group 2823

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 03180.0289

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Masayuki TANAKA, et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2823  
)  
Serial No.: 09/973,744 ) Examiner: Fourson III, George R.  
)  
Filed: October 11, 2001 )  
)  
For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING )  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND )  
THE SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action of November 20, 2003, with a period for response extending through February 20, 2004, Applicants propose amending the application as follows. Applicants also respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration in view of remarks that follow:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.

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